

# Missouri in Motion

**Our Mission:** AAUW advances gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

**Our Vision:** Equality for all.

**Our Values:** Intersectional. Inclusive. Intergenerational. Empowering.

## A Salute to Lily

**AAUW honors the recent passing of Lilly Ledbetter and her outstanding legacy, which will impact women well into the future.**

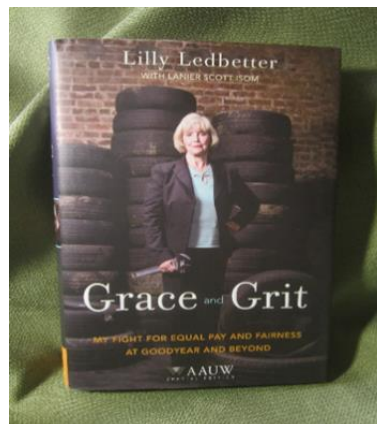
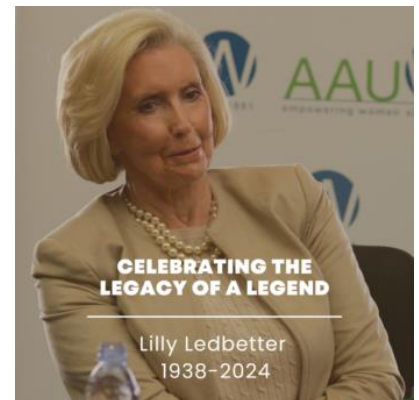
**Lilly Ledbetter** was the pioneer of the *Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009* to ensure all women receive fair pay for their work. Ms. Ledbetter’s story resonated with so many women fighting for fair pay. After almost 20 years of working at Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., she received a note revealing that she, the only female supervisor, was being paid 40 percent less than her male peers. Ms. Ledbetter filed a gender discrimination lawsuit in 1998 that made its way to the U.S. Supreme Court. The court ruled in 2007 that she had been paid unfairly long enough to make it legal.

Ms. Ledbetter and AAUW had a long-lasting, strong, and productive relationship. We continue her legacy by championing equal pay legislation such as the *Paycheck Fairness Act*, which would give workers new tools for ensuring that employers pay women and men equally for equal work. As Lilly said in a [Q&A session](#) with AAUW, “The gender pay gap is everybody’s issue.” Lilly Ledbetter never stopped fighting for gender pay equity. In her memory and in her honor, AAUW vows to continue the fight. From [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org).

Branches are encouraged to consider a special “Salute to Lilly” event during the 2024–25 year, which may include

- ❖ A program on pay equity with a focus on Lilly’s journey
- ❖ A movie-night event for the entire community – the movie *Lily* was released on October 12, 2024
- ❖ An in-depth review of her book, *Grace and Grit*
- ❖ A review of the pay-equity laws in Missouri,
- ❖ A study of this unique woman and her perseverance, or a related project.

**Lilly Ledbetter** worked hard to move pay equity forward– let’s keep the momentum going!



### AAUW MO Contents

Page
1 Tribute to Lilly Ledbetter
2 President Sue Shineman Nominations for AAUW MO
3 AAUW Fund & Legacy Circle
4. Post-Election Message & Public Policy
5 STEM, Liaison Support Calls & NCCWSL
6 Membership & Opportunity Grants
7 AAUW MO May Meeting, Facebook, & Events Calendar
8 Atlantic States Regional Conference & AAUW MO Collaborations
9–13 Leaves from the Branches
14 AAUW MO Board

## From AAUW MO President Sue Shineman



How do castles in the sky, climbing, and building foundations relate to AAUW? I quote Henry David Thoreau, “If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; that is where they should be. Now put the foundations under them.” By finding a harmonious balance, we transform our castles (goals) in the sky into solid foundations (our history) upon which we can continue to build (the climb) the future of AAUW.

One of my focus areas for 2024–26 is to help branch leaders work together on affiliate structure and membership challenges. I have been asking lots of questions and listening to your thoughts, ideas, and concerns. The responses are inspiring and encouraging as we look at ‘how we do AAUW differently’ in the future. AAUW Missouri has been a leader in advocating for women’s rights, equality, and breaking the glass ceiling since 1921.

At a recent Action & Advocacy Leaders meeting (aka AAUW MO Branch Presidents), I asked each leader to share something about their branch that makes them ‘want to take a ride across the sky.’ (It was just a week before Halloween.) **Boonville Co-President Adrienne Johnson** said, “It sounds like what Nana used to say, “Build your sandcastles in the sky and climb toward them.”

I immediately related ‘sandcastles’ to recent conversations about succession planning, new ways to think about leadership and programming, and to improve our visibility in the community, but at the same time to hold fast to our rich history. The ‘climb’ is the new direction we all will take to continue our success as tenacious and trailblazing leaders.

The ‘foundations’ will be the commitment and combined efforts of those required to implement our latest ideas and ways of doing things. Members should remember the fine line between imagination and being practical. Imagination inspires innovation and fosters our ability to see possibilities beyond our current affiliate structure. Making too many changes too fast is not practical and will not provide the success we want to achieve.

As I attend meetings with members and leaders across Missouri, and other states, it is clear we all face the same challenges. Attracting new members, securing leadership, and participation beyond attending a meeting becomes more challenging each year for organizations, churches, and membership-based groups.

Thank you to everyone who has given feedback previously. Sharing ideas about your branch’s castle in the sky, how together we build the foundation and make the climb to even greater success has been most helpful. I look forward to many more opportunities to continue engaging with individuals and branches. We are stronger together!

### Call for Nominations for AAUW MO Officers

The Nominating Committee of the AAUW MO Board reminds members that three officer positions will be voted on at the annual meeting next spring. The positions are president elect, program vice president, and secretary. Nominations will be submitted by the committee and announced in the Winter 2025 *Missouri in Motion*.

Suggestions for these positions may be submitted by December 15 to any of the Nominating Committee members: **Lynne Roney**, chair (roneyeditorial@gmail.com); **Jane Biers** (biersj@missouri.edu); **Patt Braley** (braleypatt@gmail.com); **Kay Meyer** (kicmeyer51@gmail.com); and **Sandra Murdock** (sesandram@aol.com).

## AAUW MO Board Reaches Goal

Once again, the AAUW MO Board reached its goal of 100 percent-giving participation to AAUW Fund. All of the 22 board members (elected and appointed officers, committee chairs) made an annual contribution. The total sent to AAUW Fund was \$10,200.10.

## AAUW Legacy Circle Welcomes New Member AAUW National Legacy Circle Liaison Susan Barley

**Charlotte Parsons**, long time AAUW member of the Jefferson City and the Kirkwood-Webster Groves branches has become a member of the AAUW Legacy Circle by designating AAUW in her planned giving. A beautiful Legacy Circle pin was presented to her at the Kirkwood-Webster Groves branch luncheon in June. AAUW thanks Charlotte for her commitment to the AAUW mission. She proudly joins the other 26 Legacy Circle members from Missouri.

The AAUW Legacy Circle acknowledges donors who have included AAUW National in their estate plans with a planned gift. If you are interested in knowing more about leaving a legacy of empowerment and education, information can be found on the AAUW website <https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/support-aauw/leave-a-legacy/> or contact Susan Barley, National Legacy Circle liaison [barley702@gmail.com](mailto:barley702@gmail.com).



L-R: Charlotte Parsons is welcomed to Legacy Circle by Susan Barley.

## AAUW Fund

### AAUW Fund Chair Sage Taber

The Greatest Needs Fund needs your support to keep AAUW's mission growing. AAUW's expenses—which include member services, administration, rent, communications, and fundraising—are funded by donations. The Greatest Needs Fund also supports many of our programs, such as public policy and research. Dues cover only about 17 percent of these expenses.

The top total branch giving and top per-capita branch giving will be recognized at the AAUW MO spring conference for 2024 giving (January – December.) Branches with 50 percent and higher giving participation will be recognized. Century Club members (\$100+ donors) and Century Club Plus members (\$250+ donors) will be honored.

## Message from our President Sue Shineman

The 2024 election is in the books. Regardless of how we voted, we find ourselves with diverse emotions, some are hopeful, and others are concerned. There were wins in some areas and losses in others. As we continue to advocate, collaborating with like-minded organizations, we will gain strength in defending the rights of women and families. We will not go back!

Thank you to everyone who provided voter registration and education, carried petitions, worked the polls, displayed yard signs, shared on social media, wrote letters to the editor, marched in the Nov 2 Women's March, or talked with friends and family about the values of women's rights – You made a difference! A woman's right to reproductive health care in Missouri is once again restored.

The work of AAUW members and the fight for equity, inclusion, and the rights of women will continue for years to come. We are reminded that as AAUW members we all have the same vision – Equity for All. Together we are stronger and have a greater impact.

This link [Dear AAUW Members.docx](#) is to AAUW's official statement on the election results and a link to the November 19, 2024 webinar - Securing the Future: Post Election Conversation on Women's Economic Security.

## Public Policy

### AAUW MO Public Policy Chair Alice Kitchen

Members statewide worked for the passage of Amendment 3 with success. Presidents of both AAUW MO, Sue Shineman and League of Women Voters MO, Marilyn McLeod submitted a joint letter to the editor of the St. Louis Dispatch that was published on October 20. Ads were purchased in four newspapers and banners in a Gen Z magazine.

Fifty-eight percent of Missourians voted Yes on Amendment 3 with 48 percent opposed. Missouri was the first state to undo the extreme ban. With the passage of Proposition A, the minimum wage will increase to \$13.75 on January 1, 2025, and to \$15 one year later, and requires all employers to provide paid sick leave.

Given the election results at the state and federal level, the Missouri Public Policy Committee priorities for 2024–25 will be reviewed in December. We will continue to focus on statewide legislative issues as well as the local ones we have been working on. To view AAUW MO Public Policy Priorities go to [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eF\\_knsLrsrtuMu8xixv5IEGlvB6VcptAHxp7AQ6\\_YVM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eF_knsLrsrtuMu8xixv5IEGlvB6VcptAHxp7AQ6_YVM/edit?usp=sharing).

Work continues on the elimination of the use of salary history in the hiring process in municipalities and getting those entities to do a Gender Study of their workforce. The purpose of a Gender Study is to identify disparities in wages based on experience, education, and skills. This differs from equality which pays people in the same job code the same regardless of the education, experience, and skills.

## STEM

### AAUW MO Chair Pam Kulp

The STEM committee is compiling surveys sent to your branch STEM chair. We hope to get these results to you soon. Remember to visit our state website [aauw-mo.aauw.net](http://aauw-mo.aauw.net). View STEM the Branch Projects and Events for successful projects that are being done in our state.

### Reshma Saujani, “Teach Girls Bravery, not Perfection,”

presents a TED (Technology, Entertainment, Design) Talk that will inspire your branch to motivate girls and young women to reach for their dreams of STEM occupations. If you are unable to connect to the link below, go to Google and request the TED talk by This talk is only 12 minutes long. She is the American woman lawyer, politician, civil servant who is the founder of the nonprofit organization “Girls Who Code.” [http://www.ted.com/talks/reshma\\_saujani\\_teach\\_girls\\_bravery\\_not\\_perfection?subtitle=en](http://www.ted.com/talks/reshma_saujani_teach_girls_bravery_not_perfection?subtitle=en)



## New Liaison Support Calls

### Sue Shineman

State and Branch Leaders are invited to join Liaison Support Calls hosted by the National Governance Committee. Get answers to your questions related to governance and affiliate structure among other concerns you may have. The informal calls are hosted by the AAUW Liaison Support Call Team **Sue Shineman (MO)** and **Jan Van Gasse (MI)**.

You don't need to register in advance. Sue and Jan may not have all the answers on the spot, but we will work toward pointing you in the right direction or providing an answer as soon as possible. If you want to join and just listen to what others are asking and sharing, that is okay too.

I encourage you to reach out to me anytime you have a question, idea, or concern. You do not need to wait for these scheduled calls. ([sueshineman46@gmail.com](mailto:sueshineman46@gmail.com)). Liaison Support Calls start at 6 p.m.

- Thursday, November 14, 2024
- Wednesday, February 19, 2025
- Monday, April 28, 2025

The Zoom link is always the same.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87646643179?pwd=yI6efB C159aap5wsg1hbdvQl8EfKLd.1>

## National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)

For 39 years, AAUW had had the honor of bringing thousands of college women to the Washington DC area for leadership training, inspiration, and networking at NCCWSL.

Beginning in 2025, NCCWSL will be organized and administered by NASPA Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education.

AAUW will have a presence at the conference as a speaker, exhibitor, presenter and promotional supporter. NASPA will plan and execute the conference moving forward.

AAUW is very proud of NCCWSL's 39-year legacy and has provided more information on the transition on our website. See [aauw.org](http://aauw.org) for updated information about NCCWSL 2025 when it becomes available from NASPA.

## AAUW MO Membership Membership Vice-President Susie Watson

Increase your branch's visibility. The Kansas City Northland Branch has a lightweight retractable banner stand sign w/carrying case (36 inches wide by 60 inches tall), which was displayed at the Regional Conference in St. Louis.

Six years ago, Office Depot created our sign for \$153. How can your branch purchase one? A suggestion is to apply for an Opportunity Grant (see article below) and use your tax-exempt letter. Choose a picture and color (if more than one) for your headlines. The Northland sign has three colors. There is also a 24 inch by 80-inch sign which is \$110. Currently there is a 20 percent discount coupon. KC-N branch displays our sign at the entrance to the meeting room. It is ideal for on-campus events and for speaker events in a public location.

Use Save-the-Date meeting reminder sheets for members and guests to include monthly in your newsletter. This would be ideal to forward to a non-member friend. Programs are on ZOOM and friends can attend remotely.

Consider creative partnerships. This could be a group meeting with League of Women Voters and/or invite STEM teachers from the local school district to a presentation by a college STEM professor. Interact with your local Chamber of Commerce. These are ways to introduce AAUW and our programs to others. Growing our Membership is our GOAL!



L-R: Jane McClain, Susie Watson, Linda Berube, and Luna Mukherjee

## Opportunity Grant Funds

### Incentive Grants Chair Carol Cox

Ta-Da, drum roll please: Introducing Opportunity Grants, the rebranding of the Incentive Grant program. The goal of the committee continues to give money to branches “for projects that support the mission of AAUW and/or provide opportunities for women and girls to achieve their full potential.” There are two types of grants: The Peg Witt Fund and the AAUW MO Reserve Fund. Your branch can apply year-round for grants using forms at <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/incentive-grants/>.

You don't need to fill out the complete application as a first step. Use the ideas in the application to write a five to six sentence concept proposal. Send your proposal to me for committee evaluation. If your proposal is approved, then you fill out the application. What projects can your branch do, or already plan to do, that support the AAUW mission, and where you could use financial support? There are many possibilities and only a few things the funds can't be used for.

A couple examples of previous projects:

- 1) A presentation to middle school classes to pursue careers in STEM. The money was used for costumes and bookmarks.
- 2) Funds supported a legislative Action Forum that had three speakers addressing issues. The money granted paid for the site rental and publishing supplies.

Please check out the link above for an application form and more information. Contact me if you have questions—Carol Cox, [cjc\\_51@yahoo.com](mailto:cjc_51@yahoo.com).

## Save the Date – State Meeting on May 3, 2025

Program VPs Su Bacon and Diane B. Ludwig

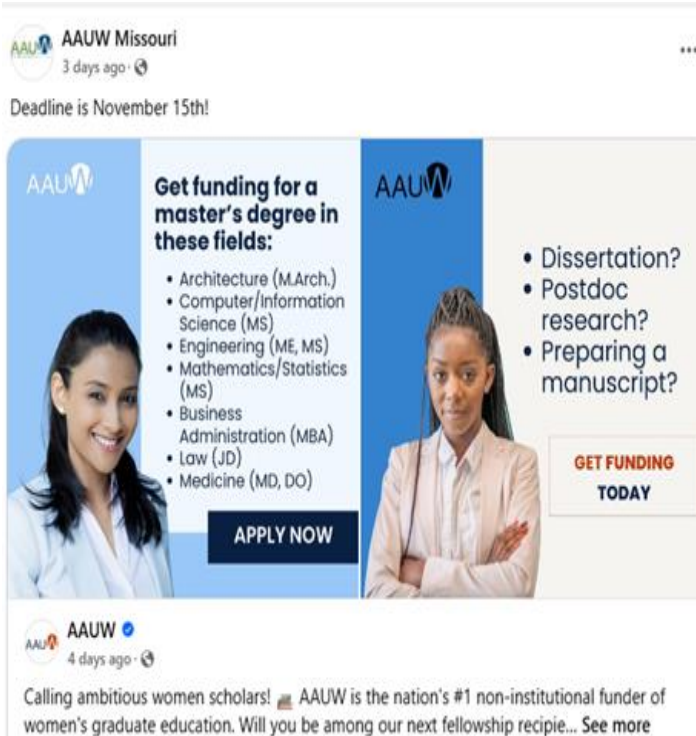
Plans for the 2024–25 AAUW MO May state meeting have begun for Saturday, May 3, 2025, via Zoom. Please mark your calendars for this morning event. AAUW MO is alternating its state meetings with in-person meetings in even-numbered years and Zoom meetings in the odd-numbered years.

The May 2025 meeting will include a state business meeting, elections, state awards, a presentation by an AAUW national leader, and a keynote presentation on AAUW MO vital issues. Full details will be in the winter edition of *Missouri in Motion*.

## Follow AAUW Missouri on Facebook!

Help AAUW Missouri get more visibility! Be sure to Like and click “Follow” on our page. If you are already following and not seeing our posts in your feed, go directly to the page and click “like” or comment on one or two posts you see there.

Even better, share a post to your own page! The more you interact with our posts, the more often they will appear in your own feed.



## 2024–25 AAUW MO Events [aauw-mo.aauw.net](http://aauw-mo.aauw.net)

### November

- 14 National Governance Committee Leaders Liaison Support Call 6–7 p.m.
- 15 Deadline for AAUW Fellowships/Grants
- 17 AAUW 143rd Anniversary
- 22 Deadline Fellowship/Grant applications
- 23 State Board Check-in Call via Zoom 9:30–10:30 a.m.

### 2025

### January

- 18 State Board Meeting via Zoom 9:30 a.m.–noon
- 20 Presidential Inauguration Day

### February

- 15 State Board Check-in Call via Zoom 9:30–10:30 a.m.
- 19 National Governance Committee Leaders Liaison Support Call 6–7 p.m.

### March

- 5 National Equal Pay Day
- 8 International Women's Day
- 15 State Board Meeting via Zoom 9:30 a.m.–noon

### April

- 14 Lilly Ledbetter Birthday April 1938
- 26 State Board Meeting via Zoom 9:30 a.m.–noon
- 28 National Governance Committee Leaders Liaison Support Call 6–7 p.m.

### May

- 3 AAUW MO State Meeting via Zoom

### July

- 19 State Board Meeting and Retreat - Columbia 9:30 a.m.– 4 p.m.

## Atlantic States Regional Conference



L-R: Karen Francis, Gloria Blackwell, Meghan Kissell, and Sue Shineman

**Sue Shineman, Karen Francis, Diane Ludwig, and Susan Barley** attended the Atlantic States Regional Conference in Virginia September 27–29, 2024, sharing about AAUW Missouri and bringing home lots of ideas to discuss and incorporate with our branches.

There were many networking and learning opportunities with leaders from 15 states. Some of the many highlights were sessions on AI (Artificial Intelligence) and how it is becoming part of who we are, just like Facebook; the importance of using social media; and the continued fight for the ERA. There were new ideas to keep smaller branches afloat; affiliate structure and succession planning; and the continued need for advocating for voting rights, immigrants opportunities, and reproductive health care. **Sue Shineman** presented Inclusion Infusion to a group of twenty-five.

**AAUW CEO Gloria Blackwell and Meghan Kissell, Sr. Director of Policy, and Member Advocacy,** were onsite interacting and sharing just as they did during our Central States Regional Conference last October. Sue, Karen, and Diane spent an hour with Meghan talking about Public Policy Priorities. There is always something very inspiring about being in the room with other AAUW Advocates that makes you want to go back to your home state and make it all happen!



Sue Shineman, Karen Francis, Sue Barley and Diane Ludwig

## AAUW MO Collaboration

### Past President Karen Francis

In addition to supporting our AAUW MO president, my responsibilities include chairing the Woman of Distinction Award committee and informing AAUW MO leaders of collaboration opportunities with other organizations that support our mission and Public Policy Priorities.

So far this year AAUW MO has shared information and collaborated with these organizations.

- LWV MO Disability Voter's webinar,
- AAUW 's Project 2025 information and Empowering Women's Initiative webinar
- United WE, Kansas City; Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice programming in St. Louis
- NCCWSL attendee at Ballwin-Chesterfield meeting
- Empower MO–priority areas food insecurity and racial justice
- St. Louis County Library Domestic Violence Awareness Month Personal Care Drive
- YWCA National Domestic Violence Awareness Week and its impact on financial security
- Atlantic Regional Conference in Richmond, VA.

AAUW MO will again host the state-wide 2025 Legislative Briefing on February 22, 2025.

Please feel free to share any information regarding programs, conferences, webinars. To quote **Susan B Anthony** “Wherever women gather together, failure is impossible.”



## Leaves from the Branches

**The Ballwin-Chesterfield Branch of AAUW** The year kicked off with a very successful Fall Brunch on September 10, where members heard from several committee chairs and Interest Group Leaders. AAUW mission and activities were reviewed with a fun game of bingo, designed by our very own **Carol Anthony**.

October's speaker Vivian **Gibson** presented "Women of a Certain Age Have Stories to Tell," which focused on her experience growing up in the Mill Creek area of St. Louis City, and the aftermath of its destruction to make way for a highway and St. Louis University.

The Public Policy Committee, led by **Angie Janik** and **Marian Bauer**, presented an information event for members on October 15, at the Daniel Boone Branch of the St. Louis County Public Library. The focus was the Amendments and Propositions that were on the ballot and general voting information.

The B-C December Party will be held on Thursday December 12, featuring the Parkway West Jazz Choir, followed by a boxed lunch. This event will also kick off the B-C Boosters, a branch fundraiser that extends from December to April to raise money for the Operating Fund.

**The Nevada Branch of AAUW** held a public program on Tuesday, October 22, 2024. Representatives from the Joplin League of Women's Voters presented "Voting Matters!" focusing on the November ballot issues.

Fliers were sent to other local women's organizations and shared with members to pass along to interested people. The local radio station included the event in their daily news, which included interview snippets from the presenters and **Branch Co-President Phyllis Sprengle**.

This event is the first of three public programs that the Nevada Branch has scheduled. The idea of inviting the public to AAUW monthly programs was brought back from the regional conference in October of 2023.

### *Voting Matters !*

The Nevada Branch of **AAUW**  
(American Association of University Women)  
extends an invitation to the members of your  
organization to attend a non-partisan informational  
program on the

#### **November ballot issues.**

We believe bringing together multiple groups will be  
of value for this important topic.

**The program is open to the public.**

**Patrica O'Roark**

**The League of Women Voters  
will be presenting the program.**

**October 22, 2024**

**5:30 - 6:30 pm**

**Nevada Library Annex  
(corner of Walnut & Main)**

For questions, please contact Allison Fast 417-448-9607  
or Clarisse Teepe-Fryrear 417-684-5885



The Nevada Branch has 15 members, and the event was attended by many branch members, members from the community, and a freelance writer from the local newspaper. We were excited to have such a good turnout with over 50 in attendance for the program and discussion that lasted just over an hour.

## The Kansas City Branch of AAUW

For the last 46 years, the AAUW-KC branch has sponsored the **Thorpe Menn Book Award for Literary Excellence**. A group of AAUW members read and judge books published by authors residing in the greater Kansas City area in the most recent calendar year, and the three finalists are sent to an outside judge. The Award Luncheon is held in early October at the Auditorium at Woodneath Library Center, Mid-Continent Public Library.

**John Moessner** was the winner this year for his book of poetry, *Harmonia*. Second Place went to **Catherine Browder** for her novel, *The Manning Girl*, and Third Place to **Jenn Bailey** for her children's book, *Henry Like Always*. The winner was awarded \$300, and the two runners-up each received an award of \$100. They all received a framed certificate of their award.

**Desideria Mesa**, the 2023 Thorpe Menn Book Award winner for her novel, *Bindle Punk Bruja*, was the keynote speaker at the 2024 Award Luncheon before 55 attendees.

**The St. Charles Branch of AAUW** was chartered in October of 1933 and has awarded scholarships to high school senior women since 1938. Applications which meet the qualifications were accepted from any public or private high school in St. Charles County. The committee reviewed the applications and selected two recipients who attended the May AAUW Branch meeting. Committee chair **Rose Ann Weeks** presented the scholarship awards to senior **Kate Baranoski** from Francis Howell Central High School and

senior **Claire Gwak** from Fort Zumwalt East High School. Both young women graduated with distinction and aspire to earn degrees in the medical field.



Committee members and honorees include (L-R) **Barb Prideaux, Linda Dencker, Jeanetta Beckley, Kate Baranoski, Claire Gwak, Barb Olive, Jo Anne Vieweg, and Rose Ann Weeks**.

**The Boonville Branch of AAUW** celebrated the first meeting of the year with the annual salad supper. **Maryellen McVicker, Ph.D.** presented the program about the election of 1800. The evolution of the two-party system contributed to some glitches in the process. The Electoral College voted **Thomas Jefferson** to the presidency of the United States in the election known as the Revolution of 1800. After McVicker's presentation, AAUW members enjoyed a discussion about the relevance of the Electoral College in this century. Members were encouraged to check voter registration status and to encourage others to do so as well.

**The Independence Branch of AAUW** recently participated in two service-in-action opportunities in our community. **Kelley Reetzke, Sue Raymond, Karol Palmer, Patt Braley, and Lois Domsch** are pictured here volunteering at the Community Services League’s (CSL) Back to School Fair. The event was held at the Cable Dahmer Arena in Independence on Saturday, August 17. The fair is a long-time tradition in our community to help families prepare their students to return to school. CSL provided over 3,000 school children with new backpacks, school supplies, and a new pair of shoes and socks for the new school year.



**Debbie Abbott, Sue Shineman, and Karol Palmer** volunteered as representatives of Independence AAUW at the Mother’s Refuge Gala “Night of Compassion” at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City on October 4. Mother’s Refuge is an organization in Independence with a mission “to shelter and educate homeless, pregnant and parenting young women by providing comprehensive services that empower them to make successful life decisions for themselves and their babies.” Their services include a maternity home, a transitional living program,

continuing education, medical care, a life skills program, and an after-care program for former residents. This year’s Gala raised \$506,000 for Mother’s Refuge with over 750 people in attendance. Independence AAUW is proud to have been part of both community efforts to advocate for and support women and families.

**The St. Louis Branch of AAUW** In addition to the previously reported activities in *Missouri in Motion* (Readers’ Theater presentation about Victoria Clay Haley, 2024 Women’s Equality Day celebration, Virginia Minor 200<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration at Bellefontaine Cemetery), the St. Louis branch had a fall get together in October at the home of **Linda Lindsey**. We started with a guessing game of questions about women (of course), followed by a yummy potluck lunch and a lively discussion of ballot issues that was led by **Kathleen Farrell**, branch member and past president of the League of Women Voters St. Louis ([here is a link to a recent interview](#)). Kathleen distributed copies of the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* voter guide that she wrote.



The monthly branch movie club included recent discussions about *Hillbilly Elegy* (October), *The Long Game* (September), *On the Basis of Sex* (August), *Black Barbie* (July), *A Man Called Otto* (June), and *Shirley* (May).

The annual branch survey for the national office was completed as requested.

## The Kansas City Northland and Parkville Branches of AAUW

Members of the Parkville and KC Northland branches set up voter registration tables at four senior living communities and at Park University. In all, we helped over 50 individuals (including many first-time voters) register, update their registration, and/or verify the status of their registration with the state. We also distributed information about ID needed for voting and helped voters submit requests for absentee ballots. We made a difference!



Members from KC Northland, Parkville, and Independence branches (and friends) participated in the Women's March Kansas City 2024 on Saturday, November 2. We raised our signs and our voices!



KC Northland and Parkville branches were well represented at the Thorpe Menn Awards luncheon on October 5, hosted by the Kansas City Branch.

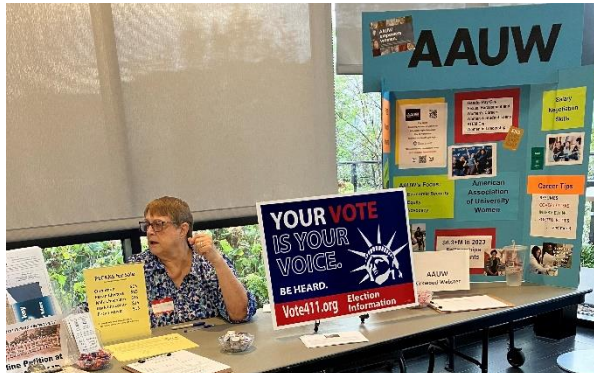
Pictured at right: **Bonnie Lewis, Sharon Posson, Mary Lee Sturdevant, Su Bacon, Di Curry McGuirk, Kathy Potter, Susie Watson, Judy Kile, and Debra McArthur.**



We enjoyed remarks by last year's winning author, **Desideria Mesa**, as well as the opportunity to meet this year's nominees.

AAUW  
**SECURING THE FUTURE:**  
A Post-Election Conversation on Women's Economic Security  
NOVEMBER 19, 2024 @ 3 P.M. ET  
Register: [act.aauw.org/ SecuringTheFuture](https://act.aauw.org/SecuringTheFuture)

## The Kirkwood-Webster Groves Branch of AAUW



Kay Meyer at AAUW KGW table at Kirkwood Performing Arts Center

KWG Branch hosted an information table at the Kirkwood Human Rights Commission event (KHRC) “Ferguson: 10 Years Later” on September 18, 2024. This annual speaker series brings together social justice and community organizations. It is a good time to network, and our presence has resulted in new members joining the branch. **Kay Meyer** and **Lynne Roney** worked at the table. **Jeanne Webdell**, a member of the KHRC, was instrumental in organizing the event. The speakers were members of the Ferguson Commission.

KWG continues to sell our “Your Vote Is Your Voice” yard signs. Several have been sold through social media and our website. They are still available by contacting **Jeanne Webdell**. Pecan sales at the Affton Craft Fair November 9 support our STEM scholarships.

Branch programs have included a STEM presentation by **Katie Corcoran** of the Missouri Highway Patrol Crime Laboratory on “Forensic Analysis of Plastic Bags” and a discussion of “Girl Scouts Today” by **Dr. Amy Koch** and her daughters.



Charlotte Parsons introduces Katie Corcoran

**The Columbia Branch of AAUW** had a busy summer and fall. In July we visited the **Ginger Rodgers** exhibit at the State Historical Society of MO, followed by lunch and a short presentation on Ginger’s life from her autobiography.

In September we looked at labor unions, women and equity in the Central Missouri area. September also brought the 10th annual **Holly Burgess Public Policy Forum** focused on the Electoral College: Its Origins, History, Problems and Possible Solutions. This was a collaborative event with a timely topic. The event was a hybrid with 18–20 people on-site and an additional 45 or so on Zoom. The program was recorded and can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHSiiPUklil>

In October, we heard about local neighbors—our Native Americans in Missouri. Noted author Greg Olson spoke about his new book, *Indigenous Missourians: Ancient Societies to the Present*. Held at Lenoir Woods Senior Center, the event drew over 55 people. November brings a program on non-traditional training for women and December is our popular Red Stocking fundraiser luncheon for the AAUW Fund. Our Book Club is meeting one Saturday each month, and our Women@Lunch group meets regularly as well. Plans are underway to hold a branch event around the movie *Lilly* when it reaches our local theaters.

## AAUW MO State Board 2024–25

To contact a state officer, go to <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/>

President Sue Shineman Independence	Program-Co VP and 10- Star Award Su Bacon Parkville Diane Ludwig Columbia	Secretary Diana Curry-McGuirk Kansas City Northland	Public Policy Chair Alice Kitchen Kansas City
Past President Karen Francis Ballwin-Chesterfield	Communications Pam Meyers Ferguson-Florissant	Directory Editors Diane Ludwig Columbia Marsha Koch Kirkwood-Webster Groves	Governance/Bylaws Parliamentarian Marianne Fues Columbia
5-Star National Recognition Program Pat Shores Ballwin-Chesterfield	Newsletter Editor Mary Jermak Ballwin-Chesterfield	MO Action Plan Chair Pat Shores Ballwin-Chesterfield	Administrative Assistant Karol Palmer Independence
Finance Officer Lois Domsch Independence	Historian Jane Biers, Columbia	Missouri History Day Betty Takahashi St. Charles	Nominating Committee Chair Lynne Roney Kirkwood-Webster Groves
Membership VP Susie Watson KC Northland	College/University Relations Chair Debra McArthur Parkville	Inclusion & Equity (IE) Luna Mukherjee Kansas City	Kansas City IBC Co-chairs Corinne Mahaffey Kansas City and Diana Curry-McGuirk Kansas City Northland
AAUW Fund Sage Taber Ballwin-Chesterfield	STEM Chair Pam Kulp Ballwin-Chesterfield	St. Louis IBC Ellen Irons St. Louis	
National Liaison Sue Barley Ballwin-Chesterfield	Google Doc Manager Lynne Roney Kirkwood-Webster Groves	Branch Incentive Grant Chair Carol Cox Boonville	Facebook Administrator April McArthur Parkville

### **Missouri in Motion, Community Hub, and AAUW MO Website**

To contact a state officer, go to <https://aauw-mo.aauw.net/contact-us/>.

- Newsletter items are requested for branch news, announcements, and photographs. Please send items to **Editor Mary Jermak**.
- *Missouri in Motion* and branch newsletters are available for download at [aauw-mo.aauw.net](https://aauw-mo.aauw.net).
- Send a copy of your branch newsletter to **AAUW MO Historian Jane Biers, AAUW MO President Sue Shineman, and Missouri Action Plan Chair Pat Shores**.
- For website additions or corrections, contact **Lynne Roney** via the website contact form.
- Update your contact information at [aauw.org/](https://aauw.org/). The Community Hub now serves as the former member services database.